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Rural District Council

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1950.



Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1950.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF—

(1) *Medical Officer of Health :*

A. MCM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

(2) *Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :*

JOHN P. COOK, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(3) *Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Surveyor :*

C. S. CURTIS, C.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch  
Rural District Council.*

LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1950.

According to the Registrar General's estimate the population remains about the same.

The birth rate (15·2) is lower than last year (17·5) and lower than for England and Wales (15·8).

The death rate 9·9 per 1000 of population (England and Wales 11·6) is one of the lowest on record.

The chief causes of death were in the same groupings as last year, mainly diseases associated with elderly people.

It will be noted under Section B that a Diabetic Health Visitor has been appointed.

In view of the fact that some of the water supplying houses without a piped supply has been polluted and the shortage of water in parts of the district an additional borehole is a necessity.

There are 242 Cesspools in the District as compared with 235 in 1949 and none of the post war Schemes of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal have been commenced.

The number of inhabited houses has increased to 3988, and the number of houses with W.C's. has increased to 2112. During the year only 20 closets were converted to the water carriage system.

87 houses were completed during the year, bringing the total of post war houses completed to 265. The total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year was 814, last year 721, and in 1948—641. In view of the large number of sub-standard houses, rehousing still remains an even greater problem facing the Council.

One case of Diphtheria in the 25 and over age group was notified during the year. This is the only case since 1946.

The number of children being immunised against Diphtheria particularly in the younger age group is still falling, and every effort should be made to persuade parents to have their children immunised, or the number of children in the community susceptible to Diphtheria may become dangerously high.

318 Cases of Infection Disease were notified during the year, this is an increase on last year and is made up chiefly of Measles (166) and Whooping Cough (95).

There were 10 cases of Scarlet Fever all mild. 38 cases of Pneumonia with 5 deaths.

Whooping Cough appeared to be scattered over the whole district.

For the fourth year in succession Measles has again been prevalent. Most of the cases occurred in April and May on the east side of the district—Coleorton (39), Osgathorpe (8), Ravenstone (48), Swannington (41) and Worthington (3). In 1947 Measles was prevalent on the east, in 1948 over the whole area, in 1949 on the east side, and again in 1950. So for the fourth year in succession Measles has been always prevalent on the east side of the district.

To the Staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council I wish to extend my thanks for their willing help and co-operation.

Finally, I wish to express my thanks to Mr. J. P. Cook, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. C. S. Curtis, Additional Sanitary Inspector for their invaluable help during the year, and to you Ladies and Gentlemen for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## SECTION A.

### Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area	....	...	28,073 acres
Resident Population (R.G's. estimate)			13,730
Number of Inhabited Houses		...	3,988
Rateable Value	...	...	£54,231
Sum represented by a Penny Rate			£210
Comparability Factor—Births		...	1.02
Deaths		...	1.05

The chief industries in the area are:—(1) Agriculture, (2) Coalmining, (3) Open-cast Coal Working, (4) Brickmaking, (5) Stoneware and Pipemaking and (6) Stone Quarrying. There are also small Textile Works and Light Engineering Works.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

### Vital Statistics.

Live Births.	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	201	96	105
Illegitimate	8	3	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	209	99	110

Birth Rate—15.2 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate, 1950—15.8 per 1,000 population.

Still Births.	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	9	6	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9	6	3

Still Birth Rate—.65 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Still Birth Rate, 1950—.37 per 1,000 population.

Deaths.	Total	Male	Female
	136	61	75

Death Rate—9.9 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate, 1950—11.6 per 1,000 population.

### Causes of Death during 1950.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory) ...	0	2	2
Tuberculosis (other) ...	1	0	1
Syphilitic disease ...	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	6	4	10
Diabetes ...	1	3	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	12	21
Coronary disease, angina ...	11	8	19
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	0	1
Other heart disease ...	12	10	22
Other Circulatory Disease ...	1	0	1
Pneumonia ...	2	3	5
Bronchitis ...	3	4	7
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	1	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	2	3
Hyperlasia of prostate ...	1	0	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	1	1
Congenital malformations ...	0	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	5	13	18
All other accidents ...	2	2	4
Homicide and operations of war ...	1	0	1
	61	75	136

Chief causes of Death in 1950 were:—

Heart Disease 42, Malignant Neoplasm 20, Vascular Lesions of Nervous System 21.

#### Maternal Mortality.

Total Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births (Live and Still) 4.5  
ditto England and Wales ... 0.86

#### Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	10	3	7
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	10	3	7

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births 47.8  
England and Wales, 1950, per 1,000 Live Births ... 29.8

#### Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	7	1	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	7	1	6

## **SECTION B.**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

#### **Hospitals.**

All the hospitals, except some private Maternity and Nursing Homes are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

**The County Homes** for the aged and destitute are under the County Council. When the inmates take ill they then become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

#### **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**

There are none actually held in your District.

**Infant Welfare Clinics** are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist School, Ashby, and every 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Antenatal Clinic and a Tuberculosis Centre are available, the latter is under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

#### **Ambulance Facilities.**

After July 4th, 1950, the County Council is responsible for all ambulance facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

#### **Nursing in the Home.**

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the Home is under the Leicestershire County Council.

#### **Health Visiting.**

This work is provided by the Leicestershire County Council and the work of Health Visitor, School Nurse, and Tuberculosis Visitor, is combined in a single appointment. This work is very ably carried out in the area. A Diabetic Health Visitor was appointed in 1950 and she attends the Diabetic Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes.



## LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Heath Laboratory, Isolation Hospital,  
Grobby Road, Leicester.

The following examinations were made :

Throat and Nose	...	2
Faeces and Urine	...	3
Blood	...	2
Pleural Fluid	...	1
Sputum	...	19
Water	...	3
Milk	...	21
Ice Cream	...	11
Total		62

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## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

#### 1. Water Supply.

- (a) The piped water supply in the district has been satisfactory in quality. Normally supply just meets demand, but in times of drought cannot do so in the higher parts of the district. In very dry periods shortage occurs and application has been made to the Ministry of Health to sink an additional bore hole at Acresford.

The reservoirs at Hoo Ash were badly damaged by mining subsidence and as a temporary measure two Lancashire boilers have been placed in position to act as storage tanks. Sanction has been received from the Ministry to sink an additional bore hole at Heather. C. I. Water pipes have been purchased for the provision of a piped supply to Appleby Magna.

- (b) The waters in this area are not liable to Plumbo-Solvent action.

(d) Water Supplies from Public Mains :—

DIRECT TO THE HOUSES.		BY MEANS OF STANDPIPES.	
No. of Dwelling Houses,	Population.	No of Dwelling Houses.	Population.
3442	12,047	There are no public standpipes in the district.	

(e) No. of parishes with piped water supply :—

(1) from public mains	...	...	13
(2) from private reservoirs	...	...	1
(3) No. of parishes without a piped water supply	...	...	3
(4) No. of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water	...	...	18

(f) Water supply from wells :—

Number of samples taken for analysis	8
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RESULTS OF ANALYSIS.

Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
Chemical	Bacteriological.	Chemical.	Bacteriological.
0	2	0	6

No. of wells closed ... 15      No. of wells cleansed, etc. ... 1

No. of houses relying on well supplies ... 477

2. Sewage Disposal.

No. of cesspools constructed during year	...	7
No. of cesspools abolished during year	...	—
Total number in district on Dec. 31st, 1950	...	242
No. of parishes with efficient sewage disposal works	...	4
No. of parishes where new schemes have been formulated	...	9

90 yards of 8 inch sewer were laid in Moira Road, Donisthorpe to replace a section which had a back fall due to mining subsidence.

### 3. Closet Accommodation.

Total number in district on December 31st, 1950 :—

(a) Privies—345 (b) Pail Closets—1535 (c) W.C.—2112

No. of closets converted to water closets during year :—

(a) Privies — (b) Pails 20

No. of Privies (Middens) converted to pail closets during the year — 9

### 4. Public Cleansing.

House refuse is removed by direct labour. The Council have four Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicles of 7 cubic yards capacity each fitted with a 350 gallon night soil tank Dry refuse is taken to tips and the wet to agricultural land. Earth closets, ashpits and cesspools are emptied by the Council's workmen. Three lorries are in regular use and one kept as a standby.

No. of parishes covered by routine collection	16
No. of tips	5

### 5. Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Total number of Complaints received	142
Groundless	20
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	122

#### Inspections Made.

	<i>First Inspection</i>	<i>Revisits</i>
Animal Keeping	5	2
Bakehouses	5	3
Dairies	6	1
Drainage Works	171	184
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	1407	1082
Food Premises	51	16
Rodent Control	10	12
Refuse Collection and Disposal	39	21
Schools	1	1
Shops	10	—
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections	45	—
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	11	28
Water Supplies	33	65
Workshops, etc.	49	5
Verminous and Dirty Premises	5	4
Other Inspections	11	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1859</b>	<b>1426</b>

## Notices.

<i>Preliminary</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January ...	35	73
Issued during year ...	40	166
Complied with during the year ...	56	179
Statutory Action necessary ...	—	13
Outstanding 31st December ...	20	60
<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January ...	—	17
Issued during year ...	—	13
Complied with during year ...	—	27
Outstanding 31st December ...	—	3

## Summary Action.

No. of Summonses Issued—3      No. of Convictions obtained—3

The Summary Action was taken under the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 93).

### 6. Shops.

No action was taken under the Provision of Shops Act, 1934.

### 7. Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the district.

### 8. Regulated Buildings.

Regulated Buildings	No. on District	No. of Inspections	Action taken	General Conditions
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	9	37	2 licences refused	Unsatisfactory
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—

Nine licences for moveable dwellings were issued pursuant to Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936.

### 9. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

One house was found to be infested.

### 10. Schools.

No schools were disinfected during year.

### 11. Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public.

None in the district.

### 12. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Routine disinfestation of tips and sewage works were carried out under contract with the Agricultural Executive Committee. Also the sewers have been baited.

One part time man is employed by the Council and he has disinfested private houses when required.

## SECTION D.

13.

### HOUSING.

#### A. New Houses.

Total number of applicants for Council Houses  
at the end of year ... 814

Number of applications received during year 167

The demand for Council Houses is still very great and rehousing is the greatest problem facing the Council.

Houses erected during year, by:	TYPE.			Av. cost per house	Av. Rent Inc. or Exclusive of Rates
	Prefabricated		Permanent		
	Temporary	Permanent			
1. Local Authority	—		74		
2. Private Enterprise	—	—	13	£1264	Owner occupiers
Houses in course of erection at end of year by :					
1. Local Authority			54		
2. Private Enterprise			5	£1530	Owner Occupiers

No. of post-war houses completed by :—

(a) Local Authority	...	220
(b) Private Enterprise	...	45

#### B. Inspection of Dwelling Housing during the Year —

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	1407
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose			2489
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which are inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	...	...	41
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose			337
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	2

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	40
<b>C Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notices—</b>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	56
<b>D. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year—</b>	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	166
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners (inclusive of 1949 cases) ...	27
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (not yet demolished) ... ..	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (pre. 1950 cases only)	3
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil

**E. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding—**

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	... ..	Unknown
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	... ..	Nil
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	... ..	39
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases		137
		Number of occupied Houses in district	...	3988
		Number of Council Houses occupied in district		538

The housing shortage is such that it is quite impossible to deal effectively with the numerous houses which in normal times would be subject to Demolition Orders.

**SECTION E.****14. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****Milk Supply.****Dairies (other than dairy farms) and Distributors.**

(Section 8, Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949).

No. on register	... ..	2
No. of inspections	... ..	3
Number of Distributors	... ..	8

**Biological Milk Samples.**

Number of samples taken	... ..	30
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**Result of Analysis :**

Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
30	—

**Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

No. of Supplementary Licences issued :				
Pasteurised	...	...	...	4
Sterilised	...	...	...	—

**Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

No. of Licences issued :			
(a)	Dealers licences	...	4
(b)	Supplementary licences	...	3



### Meat and Other Food.

No. of Regional Slaughter Houses in Area .....	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered in Area .....	Nil
No. of animals examined in Area .....	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered elsewhere .....	Unknown
No. of animals examined elsewhere .....	Nil
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter .....	Nil
No. of Knacker Yards in Area .....	2
No. of visits to Knacker Yards .....	16

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

No carcases or part was condemned.

### Meat Stalls.

Number of Inspections .....	Nil
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### Meat Shops, Meat Stalls, etc.

Number of Inspections .....	42
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### Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale

Number of Inspections .....	17
-----------------------------	----

Food inspected and condemned is as follows :—

Ham	...	16 ozs.
Bacon	...	7 lb. 10 oz.

One sheep's carcase and offal were condemned.

Model Byelaws Series No. 1 (Ministry of Food)  
have been adopted by the Council.

### Ice Cream.

No. of premises Registered :—

(a) Manufacture and Retail	...	2
(b) Retail only	...	23

No. of samples taken :— 8

Results :—Grade 1	...	5
" 2	...	2
" 3	...	—
" 4	...	1



# SECTION F.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1950.

Diseases.	Final numbers after correction	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	10	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	95	0	0
Measles ... ..	166	0	0
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	38	0	5
Erysipelas ... ..	8	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	1	1	0
Other cases admitted to Hospital (diagnosis not confirmed) ... ..	0	3	0
Total ... ..	318	4	5

Analysis under age groups according  
to Registrar General's Return 118d :

Age Group	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Diphtheria
Under 1	0	7	9	0
1—2	0	21	38	0
3—4	3	28	47	0
5—9	6	37	69	0
10—14	1	2	2	0
15—24	0	0	0	0
25 & Over	0	0	1	1
Total	10	95	166	1

Age Group	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Under 5	12	0
5—14	4	0
15—44	6	0
45—64	10	6
65 & Over	6	1
Age Unknown	0	1
Total	38	8

**Table showing incidence of Notifiable Diseases in each parish during 1950.**

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneu- monia	Diphtheria	Erysipelas
Appleby Magna	—	6	4	3	—	—
Chilcote	—	2	1	1	—	—
Coleorton	2	11	39	5	—	—
Heather	—	—	18	—	—	—
Measham	3	18	2	10	—	4
Normanton- le-Heath	—	1	—	—	—	—
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	2	17	2	6	—	3
Osgathorpe	—	2	8	—	—	—
Packington	—	—	—	1	—	1
Ravenstone	—	14	48	5	—	—
Snarestone	—	11	—	1	—	—
Staunton Harold	—	—	—	—	1	—
Swannington	—	4	41	5	—	—
Sweepstone	—	1	—	—	—	—
Stretton	—	—	—	1	—	—
Worthington	3	8	3	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	10	95	166	38	1	8
	—	—	—	—	—	—

# Measles

The following table shows the incidence of Measles in each parish monthly.

	Appleby Magna	Bardon	Chilcote	Coleorton	Heather	Measham	Normanton	Donisthorpe and Oakthorpe	Osgathorpe	Packington	Ravenstone	Snaresstone	Staunton Harold	Swannington	Swepestone	Stretton	Worthington
January	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
February	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	3
March	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	5	—	—	—
April	3	—	1	1	4	1	—	1	—	—	18	—	—	6	—	—	—
May	—	—	—	14	8	—	—	—	—	—	22	—	—	21	—	—	1
June	1	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
October	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	—	1	36	18	2	—	2	8	—	48	—	—	41	—	—	6

## IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Number of children who were immunised during the period 1st January — 31st December, 1950.

Age at 31.12.50	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
i.e. born in year	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
Primary Immunisation	11	105	25	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	147
Booster Dose					4	31	19	3	4	1	1	2	2	2	69
Estimated mid year population (child) 1950									...	1,170		5—14 years (inclusive)	...		1,910

**Statement of Particulars appearing in the Register of  
Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis for the year 1950.**

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
Number of Cases on Register at the commencement of year	20	16	36	16	13	39	65
Number of Cases notified under the Regulations of 1930 for the first time during the year ... ..	2	5	7	0	2	2	9
Number of Cases restored to Register ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Cases added to Register and brought to notice other than by formal notification ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Number of Cases removed from the Register during the year ... ..	2	7	9	2	2	4	13
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year ... ..	21	14	35	14	13	27	62

**Causes of Removal.**

	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary Non-</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary Non-</i>	
Cured	1	1	2	1	5
Died	1	1	2	—	4
Left County	—	—	—	1	1
Diagnosis not confirmed	—	—	3	—	3
	—	—	—	—	—
	2	2	7	2	13
	—	—	—	—	—

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Resumé of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1950, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

### PART 1 OF THE ACT.

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	5	1	—
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	36	39	5	—
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out - workers' premises) ...	6	26	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	45	70	6	—

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number of cases in which Remedied	defects where found To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
SANITARY CONVENIENCES.				
(a) insufficient	—	1	—	1
(d) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	2	—	1

**PART VIII OF THE ACT.**  
**OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).**

Nature of Work, Wearing apparel	No. of Out-Workers in August list required by Section 111.
Making, etc.	65
Cleaning and Washing	—
	<hr/>
Total	65

## PART II.

# Annual Report of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES,  
SOUTH STREET,  
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

16th April, 1951.

*To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and  
Councillors of the Rural District Council  
of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me pleasure to present to you this my 30th Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1950, covering the the parishes of :-

Appleby Magna, Bardon, Chilcote, Coleorton, Heather, Measham, Normanton-le-Heath, Oakthorpe, and Donisthorpe, Osgathope, Packington, Ravenstone, Snarestone, Staunton Harold, Swannington, Sweptstone, Stretton-le-Field and Worthington.

During the year routine work in connection with housing inspections, Town and Country Planning, sanitary improvements, drainage work, water supplies, inspection of food shops, etc., has been carried out.

The staffing of the Public Cleansing vehicles has continued to present a problem, especially during the absence of workmen due to sickness. The necessity for a refuse tip in the Swannington area still causes inconvenience.

Small sewage disposal works have been constructed at Newbold, Newton Burgoland and Osgathorpe to deal with effluent from housing sites, and this will ultimately require additional labour in order to effectively carry out the satisfactory treatment and disposal of sewage.

The Ravenstone works continue to be heavily overloaded and require reconstruction as soon as possible.

## COMPLAINTS.

Under their heading I have classified the improvements and work carried out in connection with same:—

Complaints received	...	...	142
Premises inspected	...	...	142
Revisits to work in hand	...	...	181
Nuisances abated	...	...	71
Work still in hand	...	...	12
Work not started	...	...	24
Groundless complaints	...	...	20
Nuisances detected (District Inspections)	...	...	20
Premises Inspected	...	...	20
Revisits to work in hand	...	...	39
Nuisances abated	...	...	30
Work still in hand	...	...	9
Work not started	...	...	—
Other inspections	...	...	—
Informal notices served	...	...	120
Statutory notices	...	...	13

In connection with the above table and outstanding work carried forward from 1949 the following work has been carried out :—

Privies converted to pans	...	...	2
W.C's repaired	...	...	6
W.C's cleansed	...	...	2
New sanitary pans provided	...	...	3
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated	...	...	11
Dustbins provided	...	...	8
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	13
Cesspools cleansed or repaired	...	...	8
Ashpits cleaned	...	...	1
Pool, ditch or gutter nuisance abated	...	...	11
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	8
Houses cleansed and lime washed or distempered	...	...	9
Overcrowding investigated	...	...	8
Overcrowding abated	...	...	1
Animal nuisance abated	...	...	5
Roofs repaired	...	...	5
Floors Repaired	...	...	3
Damp walls remedied	...	...	9
Doors repaired	...	...	4
Windows repaired	...	...	2
Fireplaces repaired or new ones provided	...	...	4
Plastering repaired	...	...	10
Coppers repaired or replaced	...	...	4



### **Complaints continued :—**

Sinks repaired or new ones provided	...	4
Chimneys repaired	...	1

During the year 42 nuisances were abated as a result of notices served prior to 1950. These and other outstanding notices involved a total of 83 revisits during the year under review.

### **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.**

During the year summons pursuant to Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 94, in respect of 3 cottages were dealt with at Ashby-de-la-Zouch Court of Summary Jurisdiction. The owner was given 6 weeks to comply with the notice and had to pay costs amounting to £2 4s. 6d.

### **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

The Leicestershire Agricultural Executive Committee have continued to carry out disinfection at refuse tips and sewage works by contact. The work has been done at quarterly intervals.

In addition to routine baiting and poisoning in sewers the following work has been carried out :—

Primary Inspections	...	10
Revisits	...	12
Infestation discovered	...	3
Nuisance abated	...	3
Informal notices served	...	3

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

Routine investigations and disinfections were carried out after reported cases of infectious disease.

Cases investigated	...	6
Disinfections carried out	...	4

The cases investigated included one suspected case of poliomyelitis. This was not confirmed. Investigations were also carried out into one suspected case of food poisoning. This also proved negative.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of wells closed for drinking water supplies	15
Number of houses inspected ... ..	33
Samples taken for analysis ... ..	8
Samples condemned ... ..	6
Water laid on from Public Main ... ..	53
Inspections to work whilst in hand ... ..	65
Informal notices served ... ..	7
Statutory notices served ... ..	5
Wells cleansed ... ..	3
Dangerous wells made safe or filled in ... ..	1

Where water was from wells which were slightly polluted and no alternative supply was available, tenants were instructed to boil water before drinking.

## SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of licensed Slaughter Houses in district	3
Number of Inspections made ... ..	6
Number of verbal notices given to limewash	1

The two Knacker Yards at Breedon Brand in the parish of Worthington, and at Ravenstone, have been kept in good order. Sixteen inspections were made during the year.

## MEAT INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections made during the year	42
Transport Vans inspected ... ..	6

The meat supplied in your district is distributed from the Regional Slaughterhouse at Coalville.

## FOOD SHOPS.

Number of inspections made ... ..	51
Number of contraventions found and remedied	2
Informal notices served ... ..	2
Cafes inspected ... ..	8

## CONDEMNED FOODS.

During the year the following goods were inspected and condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

Ham	...	...	16 ozs.
Bacon	...	...	7 lbs. 10 ozs.
One sheep's carcase was inspected and condemned.			

## NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out under this heading during the year both by voluntary action and under notices served by the Council. In the case of voluntary conversions I have been called in for advice before the work was put in hand and supervised the work while it was in progress. Details of sanitary improvements are as follows :—

Premises inspected (Voluntary Conversions)	27
Premises inspect (District Inspections) ...	12
New drainage systems laid to sewer ...	9
Old drains repaired and extended ...	27
New water closets constructed to replace privies	—
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets	20
Privies to pan closets ... ..	7
Bathrooms provided ... ..	5
Sinks provided ... ..	7
Additional W.C. accommodation provided ...	7
Revisits of inspection ... ..	105
Infomal notices served by way of instruction	23
Informal notices to convert (after District Inspection)	9
Statutory notices to convert ... ..	9
New cesspools constructed ... ..	4
Septic tanks provided ... ..	1
Urinals provided ... ..	2
Work not started ... ..	3
Work in hand ... ..	—

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

New public conveniences were completed at Measham during the year, and routine visits of inspection have been carried out.

## NEW BUILDINGS.

New Factories	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	3
New Industrial Buildings	...	...	3
Additions to Industrial Buildings	...	...	4
Garages	...	...	11
New houses completed by Local Authority			74
New houses completed by Private Enterprise			13
Additions and improvements to existing buildings			17
New farm sheds	...	...	5
Plans passed (dwellings, shops, etc.)	...	...	100
Houses drained to a sewer	...	...	7
Houses drained to a cesspool	...	...	6
Water supply from Public Main	...	...	13
Houses with Water Closets	...	...	13
Inspections made during construction	...	...	195
Pigstys	...	...	3
Incubator houses	...	...	1
Greenhouses Tool Sheds	...	...	4
Dog Kennels	...	...	2
Wireless Stations	...	...	1

## TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1947.

Work under this heading continues to demand a considerable amount of time and the expenditure of much effort in administration, keeping of records, etc.

During the year there has been an important amendment to the General Development Order and it is now possible for certain work to be executed without permission of the Planning Authority although subject to the Councils' Byelaws.

## SEWER AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Inspections to sewer	...	...	16
Sewers flushed and cleansed	...	...	8
Blockage to sewers cleared	...	...	12
Sewers repaired	...	...	—
Inspections whilst work in hand	...	...	13
Inspections of sewage works	...	...	145
Inspection of tips	...	...	39

The subsoil drains at Swannington Sewage Works were taken up and cleaned during the year.

Work is in hand at Measham for the removal and washing of media in the sludge lagoons.

90 yds. of 8 in. sewer was laid across a small croft below the Moira Road Garage, Donisthorpe, to replace a section with a backfall due to mining subsidence. This diversion has abated a very frequent nuisance caused by the flooding of the garage yard.

### **DUSTBIN PROVISION.**

During the year 512 dustbins have been provided by the Council, either to replace dilapidated bins or where no dustbin was in existence.

The decision to provide dustbins was taken owing to the great number of successful appeals by owners against various local authorities' notices to provide bins and rulings of the court to the effect that this was not the owner's responsibility.

### **MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.**

During the year licences as follows were issued :—

Supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	4
Dealers licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
Supplementary licences to use Special Designation " Pasteurised " ... ..	1
Dealers licence to open and cool Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	1
Supplementary licences to use Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested " ... ..	3

In addition 8 retailers were registered as distributors of raw milk.

Routine inspections of distributing vehicles have been carried out.

During the year 30 samples of milk for biological examination were taken. I am pleased to report that all proved satisfactory.

## ICE CREAM.

There are two premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream, one for hot mix and the other for cold. The premises licensed for the latter have not been used during the year.

Twenty three premises are licensed for the sale of pre-packed ice cream.

## FISH AND CHIP SALOONS.

Routine inspections have been carried out at the 9 fish shops in the district.

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

During the year licences have been granted in respect of 9 caravans. The majority have been for the occupation of persons working on the outcrop coal site at Packington. The housing of these workers is causing grave concern. Although on the one hand it is essential that more coal should be raised it will be a great pity if the village is spoiled by an assortment of converted buses, etc. Three licences were refused.

Inspection of caravans and caravan sites	...	11
Revisits	... ..	28
Plans submitted in respect of sites	...	1
Plans approved	... ..	1
Caravans removed after notice	... ..	2

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspection of factories	... ..	42)
Inspection of bakehouses	... ..	5) 49
Inspection of garage premises	... ..	2)
Notices received from factory inspector	...	2
Notices received from factory inspector and complied with	... ..	2
New conveniences approved	... ..	9
Cleansing of sanitary conveniences	...	2
Revisits	... ..	21
Informal notices served	... ..	6
Inspection of outworkers	... ..	62
Certificate of Means of Escape in Case of Fire		1

## PETROLEUM

The department has continued to carry out routine inspections of Petroleum Stores under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928, and Petroleum Mixture Order, 1929. After approval by the Council renewal licences have been issued and new sites approved.

## HOUSING.

Work under the Housing Acts has included renovations of dilapidated property. There has been one application for a grant under the Housing Act, 1949, and this has been forwarded to the Ministry with the Council's recommendation.

No. of houses inspected (new cases 1950)	41
No. of houses which were defective ...	40
No. of houses where defects have been remedied (including 1949 cases) ...	56
No. of houses where work is still in hand ...	12
Work not started ...	7
Total number of revisits while work in hand	296
Informal notices served ...	40
Demolition Orders served ...	2
Houses demolished (pre-1950 cases) ...	3
Houses reconditioned ...	1

Details of work done in this connection, inclusive of 1949 cases completed during the year are as follows :

Walls repaired ...	13
Roofs repaired ...	27
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired ...	4
Fireplaces repaired or renewed ...	20
Floors repaired or relaid ...	15
Doors repaired ...	9
Windows repaired or new ones fixed ...	16
Eaves spouts and downpipes repaired ...	17
Drains laid, relaid or repaired ...	16
Plastering to rooms repaired ...	21
Wash-houses repaired or drained ...	4
Coppers provided ...	1
W.C. repaired ...	2
Yard paving relaid ...	11
Dangerous brick structures demolished ...	1
Coal stores provided ...	1
Septic tanks provided ...	2
New sculleries ...	1
New larders ...	1



Appeals were heard by the County Court Judge at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, against two Demolition Orders which had been made during 1949. The two cottages concerned were very old and in an extremely bad condition. The Judge held, however, that houses should be saved wherever possible and the fact that the Council felt that the amount of money necessary to render the houses fit was exorbitant was not of interest. Specifications were submitted by the Owner's Architects to carry out work to the value of £350 in the first case and £357 10s. 0d. in the second one.

The Owners' were given six months in which to carry out the reconditioning work.

### COUNCIL HOUSES.

74 houses have been completed during the year. Great efforts have been made to ensure that new houses have been allocated to the most needy cases.

538 houses are now owned by the Council and are situated as follows :—

Appleby Magna	18	Newton Burgoland	16
Coleorton	44	Osgathorpe	14
Heather	42	Ravenstone	51
Measham	168	Swannington	58
Oakthorpe	58	Snarestone	6
Donisthorpe	31	Worthington	32

Houses requisitioned by the Council are as follows :—

The Hollies, Ravenstone (occupied by two families).  
 House, Black Horse Hill, Appleby Magna.  
 The Shooting Box, Chilcote.  
 No. 4, Bramborough Terrace, Oakthorpe.

Maintenance repairs have been carried out as when required and plans are in course of preparation for the conversion of 32 pan closets to water closets at Forest Terrace, Newbold.

Extensive internal and external repairs have been carried out at The Hollies, Ravenstone and external redecoration executed.

Painting has been carried out at Appleby Magna (16 houses) and is in progress at 12 Swedish Timber Houses at Ravenstone and 4 at Swannington.



New footpaths have been laid at 20 houses at Coleorton and 16 at Appleby Magna. Specifications have been prepared for the provision of new footpaths at 26 houses at Measham and 15 houses at Ravenstone.

Repairs, complaints, etc, have necessitated 1,099 visits to Council properties.

I cannot conclude this annual report without recording my thanks to Mr. C. S. Curtis and Miss J. E. Lilley for their valuable and conscientious work carried out during the past year.

The surveys and inspections made by the former have been carried out with care and consideration and Miss Lilley has discharged the office duties such as typing, clerical and recording work with ability and zeal.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN P. COOK,

C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.





